Maple syrup urine disease (MSUD)

- Maple syrup urine disease (also called MSUD) is an inherited (passed from parent to child) condition that occurs when the body cannot use certain amino acids correctly. Amino acids are the "building blocks" that the body uses to create proteins.
- When the body is unable to use these amino acids, dangerous substances build up in the body and cause health problems, including:
 - Poor feeding
 - Vomiting
 - Lethargy (lack of energy)
 - Developmental delay
 - Other health problems
- The urine of babies with MSUD has a sweet smell, which gives the condition its name.
- There is no cure for MSUD. However, a special diet can help prevent these health problems.
- For more information about MSUD, please click on one of the links below.
 - Medline Plus Medical Encyclopedia
 - National Library of Medicine's Genetics Home Reference